

REMARKS

By the above amendment, the specification has been amended in a manner which should overcome the drawing objections, noting that throughout the specification, the terminology of "communicating facility" has been amended to "communicating arrangement" to avoid a misunderstanding of the term "facility" as representing a structure such as a building or the like which houses equipment, for example. Rather, as described and as illustrated in Fig. 1, for example, a "communicating facility 111" is represented as a communication connection or link among the various components and may be included in a communication network 112, such as a LAN. Accordingly, by the present amendment, the specification has been amended to utilize terminology which is considered more acceptable in accordance with the drawing illustrations and additionally, the utilization of appropriate reference characters in the specification have been corrected.

With regard to the drawing objections, because reference character "104" has been used to designate both a clean room and an operation recording (log) terminal, the improper utilization of reference character "104" in relation to a clean room has been corrected, noting that the clean room is indicated by reference character "105" in Fig. 1 of the drawings and described at page 14, line 14 of the specification. Accordingly, amendment of the drawing with regard to such reference character is considered unnecessary. Likewise, the objection to the drawing as failing to show "communicating facility 111" as described in the specification, is considered to be overcome by the amendment to delete the utilization of "facility" in such terminology, it being recognized from Fig. 1, for example, that a communicating arrangement in the form of a communication connection or link is provided and clearly illustrated. On the other hand, the specification and drawings have been amended to identify communicating arrangements 111a, 111b, 111c and 111d, and submitted herewith is a corrected drawing utilizing such reference characters. Accordingly, acceptance of such drawing correction is requested, and applicants submit that the objection to the drawings should now be overcome.

As to the rejection of claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Song et al (U.S. Patent 6,487,472), this rejection is traversed, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

As to the requirements to support a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102, reference is made to the decision of In re Robertson, 49 USPQ 2d 1949 (Fed. Cir. 1999), wherein the court pointed out that anticipation under 35 U.S.C. §102 requires that each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described in a single prior art reference. As noted by the court, if the prior art reference does not expressly set forth a particular element of the claim, that reference still may anticipate if the element is "inherent" in its disclosure. To establish inherency, the extrinsic evidence "must make clear that the missing descriptive matter is necessarily present in the thing described in the reference, and that it would be so recognized by persons of ordinary skill." Moreover, the court pointed out that inherency, however, may not be established by probabilities or possibilities. The mere fact that a certain thing may result from a given set of circumstances is not sufficient.

As described in the specification, the prior arts fail to give consideration to means for allowing the user to determine and specify the state of an abnormality-caused apparatus and the cause of the abnormality for a short time. That is, while the prior art systems can determine abnormalities and provide for immediate shutdown of the system or the like, the actual cause of the abnormality may not be determinable after shutdown or the like. Accordingly, the present invention is directed to a semiconductor manufacturing apparatus having a main unit 101 for processing raw materials and forming a semiconductor and recording means for recording the operation log of the apparatus in the form of a recording terminal 104 or terminal 103 which log is communicated to a remote diagnosing terminal 107, and which may be utilized for operating the main unit. More particularly, the remote terminal includes a display in which as illustrated in Fig. 2, for example, and as described at page 18, line 17 et. seq., when the file of the apparatus log is received

and saved in the remote diagnosing terminal 107, the operating status of the semiconductor manufacturing apparatus may be reproducibly simulated on the remote diagnosing terminal through the use of the information of the apparatus of the log file. In this manner, the actual operation of the semiconductor manufacturing apparatus may be simulated and displayed, such that proper diagnosis can be effected. Thus, as recited in the claims of this application, the present invention utilizes a display means located remotely from the main unit of the semiconductor manufacturing apparatus for displaying the simulated result of the operation of the semiconductor manufacturing apparatus. Since operation of the semiconductor manufacturing apparatus can be recognized in the simulated reproduction on the display, the cause of abnormality or defect can be judged in a short time period, and the downtime of the apparatus can be reduced thereby improving operating efficiency and lowering operation cost. Applicants submit that the aforementioned features are clearly set forth in each of the independent claims of this application, and that such features are not disclosed in the cited art.

In setting forth the rejection based upon Song et al, the Examiner contends that this patent discloses all the claimed invention of the semiconductor manufacturing apparatus including, a main unit 1, recording/operation means 20, display (diagnosis apparatus) 10, a program (built-in within 10/20) while referring to Figs. 6 and 7 and col. 7, lines 1-60+ and col. 8, lines 1+. Irrespective of this position by the Examiner, applicants submit that the display or diagnosis apparatus 10 as illustrated in Figs. 2 and 3 of this patent, for example, whether or not such may be considered to include a display part 28a, merely provides a display of the present operation, and fails to disclose or teach simulation of the operation with a display means displaying the simulated result as recited in independent claims of this application.

Col. 10
lines 55+

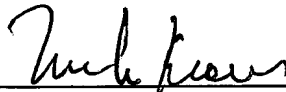
That is, independent claim 1 recites the features of operating means for operating the operation of said main unit through the use of the predetermined data and generating the operation with a display means located remotely from the main

unit and for displaying the simulated result; independent claim 2 recites the features of display means located remotely from the semiconductor manufacturing apparatus and for displaying the simulating result given by operating means for operating the operation of the semiconductor manufacturing apparatus for simulating the operation; independent claim 3 recites the features of displaying a simulated result applied by operating means for operating the operation of the semiconductor manufacturing apparatus and simulating the operation by the data; and independent claim 4 recites the features of display means for displaying simulated results applied by operating means for operating the operation of the semiconductor manufacturing apparatus and simulating the operation by using the data. Dependent claims 5-8 recite further features. Applicants submit that there is no disclosure of the aforementioned recited features of the independent and dependent claims of this application in Song et al in the sense of 35 U.S.C. 102, such that all claims present in this application patentably distinguish thereover and should be considered allowable.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, applicants submit that all claims present in this application should now be in condition for allowance, and issuance of an action of a favorable nature is courteously solicited.

To the extent necessary, applicant's petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (500.41300X00) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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